

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2645

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJECT: AND THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS MAKE FOUR

REF: LUANDA 361

1. THERE ARE NOW FOUR PARTIES WHICH, ALONG WITH A LEGAL MPLA COULD DOMINATE PRE-INDEPENDENCE ANGOLA POLITICAL SCENE. MOST RECENT TO APPEAR IS CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PARTY OF ANGOLA (PCDA) WHICH UNITES MDIA, PARTIDO DEMOCRATICO NTO-BAKO ANGOLA AND PARTI DE RESSEMBLEMENT DU PEUPLE ANGOLAIS. (MDIA AND PRPA, ALTHOUGH ONCE CONSIDERED PRO-PORTUGUESE, AND PACIFIST, HAD LEADERS AMONG RECENTLY RELEASED POLITICAL PRISONERS.)

2. PCDA PROGRAM STATES PARTY IN FAVOR, INTERALIA, INDEPENDENCE FOR ANGOLA, OBLIGATORY AND FREE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, ONE PER CENT OF GNP FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, FREEDOM OF RELIGION, ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION (INCLUDING RETURN TO "TRADITIONAL" MANNER OF CHOOSING NATIVE CHIEFS), INDUSTRIALIZATION, MINIMUM WAGE, MODERN AGRICULTURE AND "FAMILY PLANNING." PCDA AGAINST FOREIGN EXCHANGE SPECULATION, UNEMPLOYMENT.

3. PLATFORM, ALTHOUGH FOR INDEPENDENCE, IS SILENT ON KEY

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SUFFRAGE REQUIREMENTS QUESTION. OF FOUR MAJOR PARTIES EMERGENT

TO DATE, PCDA THUS FAR ONLY ONE WITH BLACKS IN IT.

4. COMMENT: MAJOR PARTIES HERE ARE LEFT-WING MDA, CENTER-MULTIRACIAL PCDA, PRO-ANGOLA ASSOCIATION (WHITE) AND "CENTER-RIGHT" PARTY. (MDA IS IN SENSE SURROGATE FOR MPLA; COLOR ASIDE, THEIR IDEOLOGIES APPEAR SIMILAR.) QUESTION MARKS HANG OVER CENTER-RIGHT PARTY WHICH MAY BE SQUASHED BY MOVIMENTO (REFTEL) AND MDA, WHICH LEADERS PUBLICLY INSIST IS NOT A "PARTY" BUT A "MOVEMENT."

5. QUESTION OF REGIONAL (READ "WHITE") PARTIES AND IMPLICATION THEIR EXISTENCE WOULD HAVE FOR POSSIBLE TERRITORIAL BREAKUP OF ANGOLA BEING INCREASINGLY RAISED IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION ALTHOUGH FEAR OF SUCH A CONSEQUENCE NEITHER WIDESPREAD NOR, IN POST'S OPINION, YET JUSTIFIED.
BRIGGS

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